

Harold Weisberg
Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701
11/16/73

Mr. John Michael O'Brien
Narcotics Office
County of Lake County
Illinois

Dear Mr. O'Brien,

From newspaper accounts I am familiar with your exposures of Army domestic intelligence activities. I write to see if you have any knowledge of any surveillance on me, directly or indirectly.

I have copies of federal surveillance, not Army, on my appearances in the Chicago area. Surveillance on me has been detected in other areas. Of these, nearest to Chicago was in Minneapolis in May of 1967, with interception of my baggage at the airport. Other than Army and not in your area I have been told, persuasively, of other federal surveillance, by those who said they were part of it. I have other evidences.

All of my writing since 1965 has been on political assassinations. All of my appearances have been in connection with this writing. Of those working in this field, I am the first to allege and to make a case that Lee Harvey Oswald's career was consistent with that of an informant, perhaps provocateur. I have traced this back to his Marines days at the latest and located and interviewed witnesses ignored by the FBI and the Warren Commission. I did discuss this openly in my appearances.

If you did not work in the Minneapolis area but know others who did, I would appreciate it if you would relay my inquiry to them or put me in a position to do it. The Army and the university have responded merely that the records have been destroyed. There is, however, no question about the fact, aside from the baggage interception, which was costly to me. Two agents in the audience were detected and harrassed by the audience. I also spotted two as I left the hall. On that trip I made a marathon appearance on a radio station located in an isolated area. The professional man who drove me around had car trouble, so he had to go to a nearby garage on more than one occasion. He and the employees of the garage observed those who were following me, parked in their car for a long, long time! Hours on end. From Minneapolis I went to New Orleans where the surveillance seems to have been picked up because my motel room was entered and my addressbook was taken.

While I have never paid much attention to being surveilled, merely assuming that from the work I did it would be inevitable, some of it was easily spotted. I had been a Senate investigator and was in O.S.S. The fake credit checks were amateurish. And J. Edgar Hoover failed to make even pro forma denials when I complained.

If your work ever brings you to this part of the country - I am about an hour from Baltimore and Washington - I have some old information on the smuggling of heroin via Windsor by a man then well connected in Illinois. My relationship with this man is and must be confidential. What I learned from him leads me to believe that the operation of which he was a minor part in 1967-8 was a rather elaborate one, somewhat sophisticated, also connected to Mexico, and smuggling hot paper.

Sincerely,
Harold Weisberg